

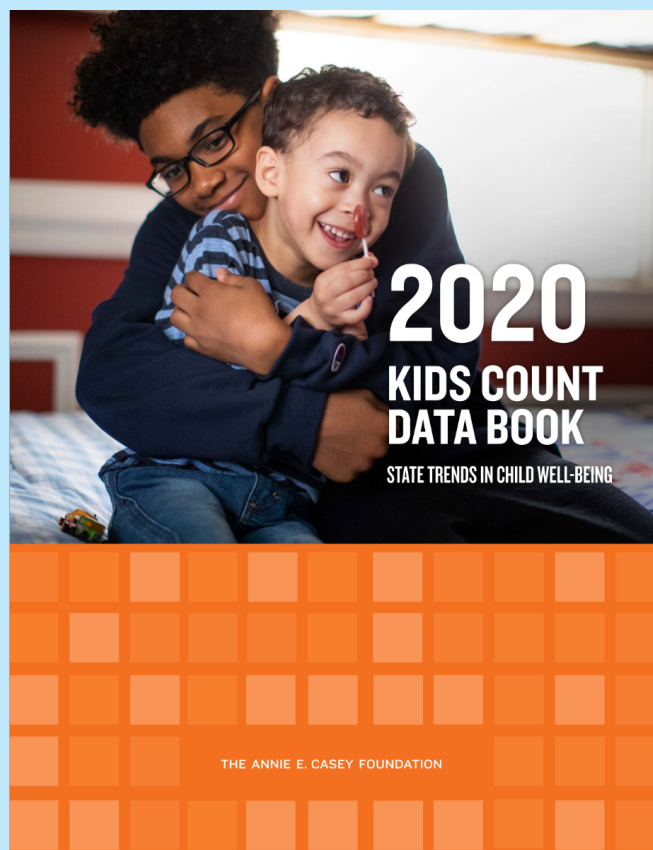


Hawai'i KIDS COUNT E-Bulletin

Center on the Family | University of Hawai'i at Mānoa-CTAHR

Hawai'i KIDS COUNT aims to provide unbiased and high-quality data and research to policymakers, child and family advocates, and other stakeholders in an effort to inform their work and advance sound policies and initiatives that support Hawai'i's children and families. In this issue, we provide information about child wellbeing in Hawai'i based on data from the 2020 KIDS COUNT® Data Book, released today by the Annie E. Casey Foundation.

2020 KIDS COUNT® Data Book Issue: **Hawai'i Ranks 17th in Latest National Rankings for** **Child Wellbeing**



Hawai'i ranks 17th out of 50 states on overall child wellbeing according to the latest *KIDS COUNT® Data Book*, released today by the Annie E. Casey Foundation. The report is based on the latest available data for 16 key indicators. For the 2020 report, those data are from 2018 and, therefore, do not reflect current conditions amidst the COVID-19 crisis.

While the economic conditions tracked by the report have improved in Hawai'i since the post-Great Recession years, those improvements had already been slowing down in recent years. According to the 2018 data, Hawai'i ranks in the middle on child economic wellbeing, with the large proportion of children living in households with a high housing cost burden remaining of concern. The longer-term impacts of the pandemic-related economic crisis on the wellbeing of Hawai'i's children are unknown at this point, but some of the progress made over the last decade may be lost. Hawai'i has suffered one of the highest unemployment rates in the country. More recent U.S. Census data suggests that many of our households have experienced or expect employment income loss, and many are already facing housing insecurity (see *Hawai'i Households and the COVID Crisis: How are we doing two months in?* below).

The 2020 data book continues to highlight the need for investments in early childhood and K–12 education, with Hawai'i remaining in the bottom third in the education domain. Over half of Hawai'i's young children are not in preschool according to the report. Quarantine closures and limited enrollment due to physical distancing measures have presented a threat to the early childcare industry,^[1] which may result in significant loss of childcare slots for our youngest children. Additionally, while there have been improvements in reading and math proficiency rates over the years, the state continues to rank in the bottom half on these indicators. Again, these are pre-COVID data and it is not yet known what impact distance learning during the recent quarantine may have on our children's academic performance.

In April, Hawai'i received \$1.25 billion in federal funds through the CARES Act for state and local responses to the pandemic crisis, with over \$600 million remaining to be allocated as of June. Prior to the crisis, a joint 2020 legislative package was introduced to improve conditions for Hawai'i's working families and their children by raising the minimum wage, addressing affordable housing, and expanding early childcare and education among other measures. The working families that were the focus of that legislative package are now struggling to pay rent and feed their children. "The sooner we get these CARES Act funds to the people they're intended to support, the faster our families, community, and economy will recover," said Deborah Zysman, Executive Director of Hawai'i Children's Action Network, a Hawai'i KIDS COUNT partner. The [Hawai'i Working Families Coalition](#)—a diversified group of nonprofit organizations, academia, unions and community advocates fighting for Hawai'i's families through policy, advocacy, and education—has put together a [blueprint](#) for how remaining funds should be spent on priority areas that will impact child wellbeing, such as basic needs (e.g., rent and mortgage assistance) and social services (including childcare assistance).

The *2020 KIDS COUNT® Data Book* is available at www.aecf.org/databook. Additional information is available at www.aecf.org.

25 ECONOMIC WELL-BEING

Rank

UNITED STATES

HAWAII

CHILDREN IN POVERTY

US: 12,998,000 | HI: 35,000

22%
2010 18%
2018 BETTER

14%
2010

12%
2018 BETTER

CHILDREN WHOSE PARENTS LACK SECURE EMPLOYMENT

US: 19,579,000 | HI: 77,000

33%
2010 27%
2018 BETTER

30%
2010

26%
2018 BETTER

CHILDREN LIVING IN HOUSEHOLDS WITH A HIGH HOUSING COST BURDEN

US: 22,566,000 | HI: 107,000

41%
2010 31%
2018 BETTER

46%
2010

35%
2018 BETTER

TEENS NOT IN SCHOOL AND NOT WORKING

US: 1,186,000 | HI: 4,000

9%
2010 7%
2018 BETTER

12%
2010

6%
2018 BETTER

35 EDUCATION

Rank

UNITED STATES

HAWAII

YOUNG CHILDREN (AGES 3 AND 4) NOT IN SCHOOL

US: 4,215,000 | HI: 20,000

52%
2009-11 52%
2016-18 SAME

44%
2009-11

53%
2016-18 WORSE

FOURTH-GRADERS NOT PROFICIENT IN READING

US: N.A. | HI: N.A.

68%
2009 66%
2019 BETTER

74%
2009

66%
2019 BETTER

EIGHTH-GRADERS NOT PROFICIENT IN MATH

US: N.A. | HI: N.A.

67%
2009 67%
2019 SAME

75%
2009

72%
2019 BETTER

HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS NOT GRADUATING ON TIME

US: N.A. | HI: N.A.

21%
2010-11 15%
2017-18 BETTER

20%
2010-11

16%
2017-18 BETTER

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Learn more at datacenter.kidscount.org/HI
N.A.: Not available

Explore data on children, young people and families:
datacenter.kidscount.org

7 HEALTH
Rank

	UNITED STATES	HAWAII	
LOW BIRTH-WEIGHT BABIES US: 313,752 HI: 1,416	8.1% 2010	8.3% 2018 WORSE	8.3% 2018 SAME
CHILDREN WITHOUT HEALTH INSURANCE US: 4,055,000 HI: 8,000	8% 2010	5% 2018 BETTER	3% 2018 BETTER
CHILD AND TEEN DEATHS PER 100,000 US: 19,660 HI: 61	26 2010	25 2018 BETTER	19 2018 BETTER
CHILDREN AND TEENS (AGES 10 TO 17) WHO ARE OVERWEIGHT OR OBESE US: N.A. HI: N.A.	31% 2016-17	31% 2017-18 SAME	28% 2016-17 25% 2017-18 BETTER

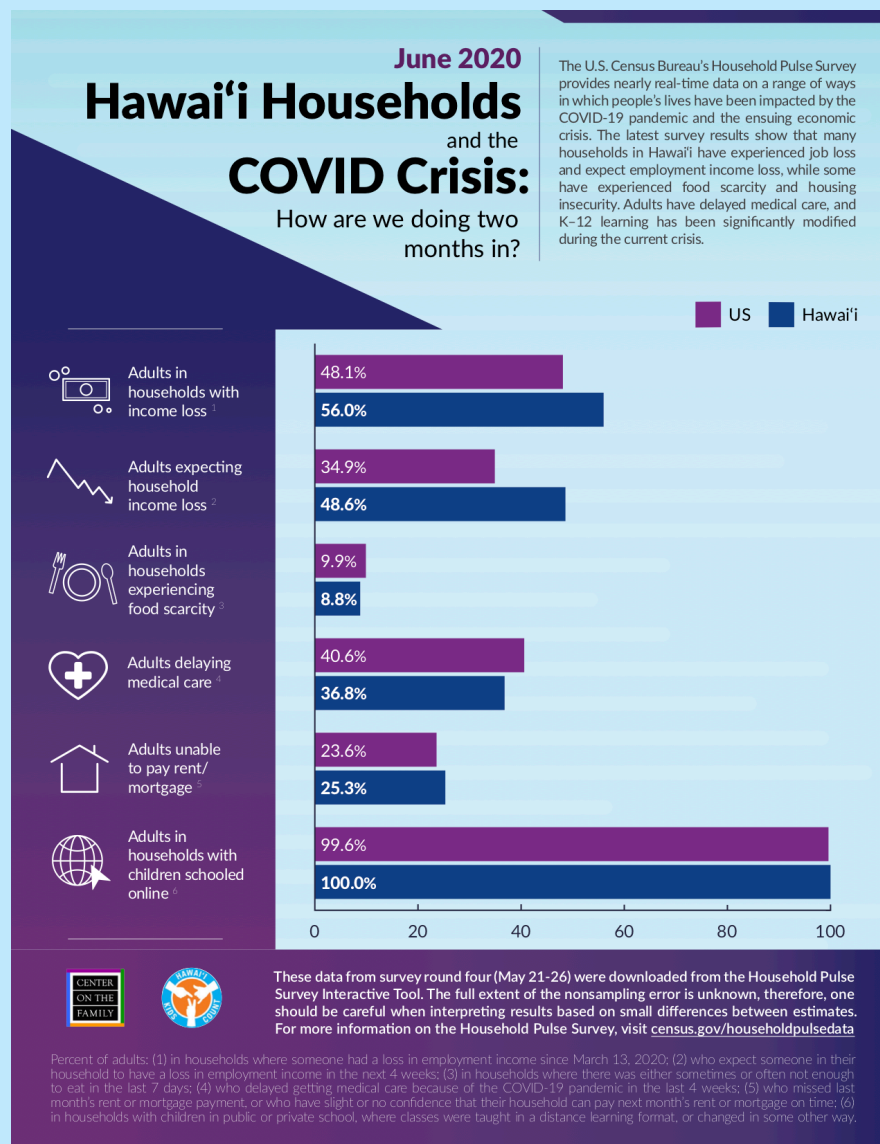
12 FAMILY AND COMMUNITY
Rank

	UNITED STATES	HAWAII	
CHILDREN IN SINGLE-PARENT FAMILIES US: 23,980,000 HI: 86,000	34% 2010	35% 2018 WORSE	30% 2018 SAME
CHILDREN IN FAMILIES WHERE THE HOUSEHOLD HEAD LACKS A HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA US: 9,205,000 HI: 19,000	15% 2010	13% 2018 BETTER	6% 2018 BETTER
CHILDREN LIVING IN HIGH-POVERTY AREAS US: 7,717,000 HI: 14,000	13% 2008-12	10% 2014-18 BETTER	5% 2014-18 BETTER
TEEN BIRTHS PER 1,000 US: 179,871 HI: 643	34 2010	17 2018 BETTER	33 2010 17 2018 BETTER

Hawai'i Households and the COVID Crisis: How are we doing two months in?

The Center on the Family recently published an infographic to raise awareness of the current economic struggles in Hawai'i and highlight the implications for family and child wellbeing roughly two months into the COVID-19 crisis. Data from the U.S. Census Bureau's Household Pulse Survey provide information on a range of indicators including income loss, difficulty paying rent or mortgages, food scarcity, and medical care. The latest survey results show that many households in Hawai'i have experienced job loss and expect employment income loss, while some have experienced food scarcity and housing insecurity.

The infographic can be found here: https://uhfamily.hawaii.edu/sites/uhfamily.hawaii.edu/files/publications/HawaiiHouseholdsCOVID_June_2020.pdf.



About Us

KIDS COUNT, a project of the Annie E. Casey Foundation, is a national and state-by-state effort to track the status of children in the United States. By providing policymakers and citizens with benchmarks of child well-being, KIDS COUNT seeks to enrich local, state, and national discussions concerning ways to secure better futures for all children. The University of Hawai'i at Mānoa Center on the Family, a unit within the College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources, is Hawai'i's designated KIDS COUNT grantee.

[1] Jessen-Howard, Steven and Simon Workman. "Coronavirus Pandemic Could Lead to Permanent Loss of Nearly 4.5 Million Child Care Slots." Center for American Progress. 2020, April 24.

(<https://www.americanprogress.org/issues/early-childhood/news/2020/04/24/483817/coronavirus-pandemic-lead-permanent-loss-nearly-4-5-million-child-care-slots/>).

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ARCHIVE OF E-BULLETINS: PDF versions of our monthly e-bulletins are available at <http://uhfamily.hawaii.edu/projects/kidscount/ebulletin.aspx>

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